THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (d) There are five Military Schools one each at Chail, Ajmer, Belgaum, Bangalore and Dholpur, established for the purpose of providing education to the sons of JCOs and ORs in the Army and equivalents in the other two services. In these schools, 67 per cent of the border seats are reserved for the children of JCOs, ORs and equivalent. Of the remaining 33 per cent seats, 20 per cent are allotted to the sons of Service officers and 13 per cent to the sons of civilians. Admission to these schools is on the basis of merit as evidenced in a written admission test and interview.

(e) No case of any eligible child having been in the merit list and being denied admission to Ajmer Military School has come to Government's notice.

Environment Protection Act

315. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is inadequate to safeguard and protect the environment;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is not enough facilities to check industrial pollution;

(c) whether any mandatory provision exists in the Act for the industry to prepare and submit a suitable environmental impact assessment; and

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to amend the Act suitably?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Both the Central and State Pollution Control Boards are in need of substantial augmentation of facilities.

(c) Under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the rules to be made there under preparation and submission of such impact assessment reports can be enforced.

(d) There is no need to amend the Act.

Sources providing Government information to Journalists

316. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are no proper arrangements for distribution, circulation and providing instant information to journalists at different Ministries and at Press Information Bureau;

(b) if so whether Government have any plans to create a pool of information at one source—for the instalt availability of Government information; and

(c) what are the present available sources of Government information?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Press Information Bureau functions as the Central agency for giving information on the policies, programmes and activities of the Government of India to mass media. The relevant information is made available to mass media on a continuing basis by the information officers of the Bureau attached with different Ministries/Deptts. by release of hand-outs, press releases, features, etc. The accredited media representatives are also invited to the Press Conference organised on behalf of various Ministries/Departments of the Government from time to time. Besides, the Minister-in-charge and the Secretary concerned are also accessible to accredited Press representatives for providing them necessary information pertaining to their Ministries/Departments.

The written material issued by the Bureau is also made available, though its